

Annual Review  
2016





# Kirkby Lonsdale Team Ministry Annual Review 2016

## News, Views and Information

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# Kirkby Lonsdale Team Ministry Annual Review 2016

## News, Views and Information

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# **Rainbow Parish Mission Statement**

**The presence of our churches bears witness  
to the continuing Christian concern  
for the worth and preciousness  
of our community.**

**We seek to care for all God's people  
in joy and in sorrow,  
from childhood to old age.**

**Membership of God's world  
is the birth right of all children.**

**We deliberately seek to be inclusive  
of all who need us.**

**We do not differentiate  
in the care and concern we offer,  
seeking to serve rather than impose.**

***St Bartholomew, Barbon  
Holy Trinity, Casterton  
St John the Divine, Hutton Roof  
St Peter, Mansergh  
All Saints, Lupton  
St Mary the Virgin, Kirkby Lonsdale  
Holy Ghost, Middleton  
St Patrick, Preston Patrick***

## **From the Rector**

This document provides an insight into all the hard work and effort that goes on across the Rainbow Parish week by week - the services, the concerts, the activities and events. I would like to say a huge thanks to everybody for contributions large and small that make it all possible.

There seems to be a growing misunderstanding, certainly from outside of the church, that 'church' is some sort of Sunday club for a few people. I would have thought that it is obvious that it takes a lot more than that to look after a church and churchyard! The Church exists for the benefit of non-members, to help build community and to enrich the life of the community. The God we worship is community by nature – Trinity. Everything that we do is an expression of that.

Back in May 2016 the archbishop of Canterbury and the archbishop of York invited every single church to join in a week of prayer leading up to Pentecost. To pray for the evangelisation of our nation. (It is going to happen again in 2017). 'Evangelisation' is a word that the Roman Catholic Church uses and it is a very good word: It means bringing the Good News of Jesus into every human situation so that it might transform individuals, families, communities and society. That is our purpose.

A year ago we were preparing for Deborah's retirement, and we were also reflecting on the lack of success in recruiting a House for duty priest. We are extremely grateful for all that Deborah did (and continues to do). Despite the changes we have managed to continue worship across the parish, thanks to the team of lay worship leaders that we developed. They make a vital contribution both in St Mary's and across the whole parish.

Sue O'Loughlin finished her Reader placement in the parish on Easter Day 2016 and we are delighted that she joined us on a permanent basis later in the year. Alan Cox is continuing his Reader training and we are looking forward to his return after his placement at St Thomas' Lancaster comes to an end.

During 2016 the House-for-Duty appointment evolved when we had the opportunity to explore a 'shared' appointment with the Methodist Church. Although this would be a new venture (it could be the first of its kind in the

country) it would be an obvious next step to consider on the ecumenical journey that we have been making for many years in Kirkby Lonsdale and the Rainbow.

It is the sort of step that our diocese is inviting churches to explore as we move to become ecumenical mission communities.

During 2016 the Family Project reached the critical, but exciting stage, of appointing a Project Leader who will to help us support families with children in our parish. We advertised the post, shortlisted and interviewed three candidates, but did not feel that any were quite right for the post. We are continuing to work hard to find the right person. The Family Project is one of the ways that will help us respond to the 'God for All' vision that 'by 2020 every person in Cumbria of all ages and backgrounds will have had an opportunity to discover more of God and God's purpose for their lives'.

*God for all,  
you reached out to the world  
in your Son Jesus Christ.  
Help us to reach out in faith and love  
and witness to all.  
God for all,  
you send your Holy Spirit  
to empower and gift your Church.  
By your Spirit help us,  
grow in unity,  
grow as followers of Jesus Christ,  
and grow your kingdom in Cumbria  
and in this world. Amen.*



## Parish Office Report

The opening hours of the Parish Office remain the same; Wednesday and Thursdays 9.00am – 3.00pm and Fridays 9.00am – 12.30pm. Friday mornings usually consist of a brief catch up with Richard in The Rectory and then back to the office.

My work load continues to keep me busy each week, from answering email and phone call enquires, updating registers and burial plans, to liaising with wedding couples and the local funeral directors! It's varied and no two weeks are the same.

We continue to use an online diary system to manage events within the Rainbow Parish and produce the weekly pew sheet for all churches with services taking place that week. The current pew sheet is available online. More churches are investing time in creating their own individual websites and we encourage their use.

Anne Pettifor has been a welcome asset to the clergy team and with 2017 set to be a busy year for weddings alone, Anne will be a big help!

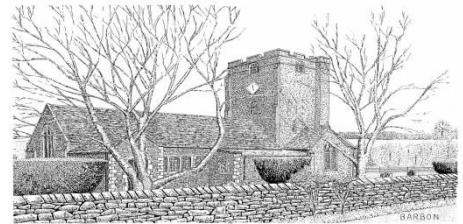
Thanks, as always go to the clergy, Robert Cass and Merlin Hibbs for their continued help and guidance.

*Victoria Hazlett, Parish Administrator*

## Reports from the District Church Councils

The following sections highlight the activities of our churches in their particular localities, and of their ministry to the communities of which they are part. In each report it would seem there are moments for thankfulness and celebration in the year that has passed, as well as pointers to some of the challenges we face or have faced. Sincere thanks to all who have written reports, and who have helped to remind us of the vibrancy of our community life - and to all who are the Church day by day.

### **St Bartholomew's Church, Barbon**



We have had a good year, with many happy things happening. We welcomed 2 new Church members at their baptisms. The siblings were really well supported by God parents, family and friends. We wish them both a long and happy Christian life.

Anna and Oliver Dawson were married, it was a joyous occasion and our good wishes go with them. Sadly the funeral took place of the son of Frank and Dooley Hodgkins who was killed in a motorcycle accident whilst on holiday abroad. A tragic event.

Our Sunday services are generally well attended, although we would always welcome more people, and we are grateful to the Rainbow team for their ministry each Sunday. We are thankful too for the services taken by members of the Methodist circuit and for our own in house gatherings. Special services are particularly well attended as was our Harvest hot pot supper, when we were entertained delightfully by The Burton Singers.

Remembrance Sunday was particularly poignant when most of the village assembled in the square to remember those who had lost their lives fighting for our country. Christmas Carol singing in the village hall with mulled wine and mince pies was also well attended. The children from The Lighthouse after school club sang a song for us, this was presented by power point,

which was much enjoyed, but mostly by the stars themselves! All proceeds went to Kendal Salvation Army, of whom many members played in the band accompanying the singing.

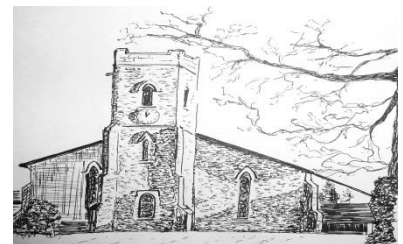
We have had a reasonably light year in terms of maintaining the fabric of the building, keeping on top of all the little jobs as they arise seems to have been helpful. A huge thank you to those volunteers who willingly do these tasks. We expect to have a high speed fibre optic connection with B4RN shortly.

The hiring of someone to mow the Church Yard continues to give huge relief to former volunteers, and ensures that the grounds look lovely. As ever the DCC is grateful to all of its members and the congregation, and to all benefactors, for the support given individually and collectively to the Church. Without their generosity and willingness to take on all those jobs that need doing, no matter how trivial or large, St Bartholomew's would not be able to run so smoothly or be so well kept and special, not only for the village, but for the many visitors who come and enjoy the beauty of the peace and quiet therein.

*Mary Goldie, DCC Secretary*

## **Holy Trinity Church, Casterton**

We had a full complement of DCC officers this year. Stephen Evans joined Ron Bulman as Churchwarden, bringing fresh ideas, enthusiasm, and hospitality. Gill Sykes represented Holy Trinity at PCC meetings, wrote minutes and agenda, and compiled the flower rota. Tom Herd continued as Treasurer and organist. Pat Brache supervised the electoral roll, whilst Frank Livesey retired after many productive years.



Stephen financed a new oak church gate, and the installation of our internet router. The B4RN for Casterton team installed hyper-fast broadband. Local 'techies' created an attractive website – [www.castertonchurch.org](http://www.castertonchurch.org).

Casterton Community Trust granted a garden bench and a 'Henry' vacuum cleaner. Villagers cleared moss from churchyard paths and ivy from perimeter walls. Contractors cured flooding in the boiler house.

Richard and Anne led the January Christingle service. School staff, parents, and pupils enjoyed excellent musical items. The collection went to the Children's Society.

Casterton Old Girls' Association celebrated Founder's Day. CAP, the Parents' Association presented a plaque, placed below William Carus Wilson's monument, commemorating 190 years of Casterton School.

Lunchtime recitals in church continued. Anastasia Micklethwaite played flute, accompanied by pianist Peter Noke. We applauded young Ulverston flautist Rowan Borthwick giving her first solo public performance. Rhiannon James on viola and Chris Mansfield on 'cello, graduates of the Royal Manchester College of Music, excelled with Paul Tortelier's *Valse Triste*, *Greensleeves* and Bartok's *Romanian Folk Tunes*.

Newlyweds Jonathan and Danielle Barrow donated the collection from their wedding ceremony to the church fabric fund. We thank the happy couple and wish them well. Further income came from tea and cakes provided by the DCC at Fell Yeat Open Garden events. Annette and Chris Benson appreciated help with parking and in the kitchen.

There were excellent Prep School concerts, at half term, end of term and exeat weekends. The talent and dedication of pupils and staff were impressive. Equally so was the high quality of *Frostiana* and *Elijah*, sung by Carnforth Choral Society, with conductor Martin Webster.

Cllr Jean Lobley organised our Remembrance Sunday wreath laying ceremony, involving bugler Isaac Weber. Tom Herd played for the church service, and Peter Yorke gave the address. Later, Allegri Singers performed *Songs of Memory and Remembrance*. They included music by Palestrina, Peter Philips, Herbert Howell's *Requiem*, and solos from Butterworth's *A Shropshire Lad*. Leader Owen Davies' piano interlude preceded *Negro Spirituals* arranged by Michael Tippett.

At Christmas, Kirkby Lonsdale Choral Society and 'Sing Joyfully!' offered seasonal enjoyment. Soloists and small groups complemented the ensemble. Anastasia conducted, and played the flute, while pianist Alexa Wightman accompanied Christmas songs, lullabies, and carols. Our own Carol Service

and Holy Communion on Christmas Day, led by Deb, were suitably attended, despite winter illness and churchgoers visiting far-flung relatives.

*R. Bulman, Churchwarden*

## **St. John the Divine, Hutton Roof**



2016 has been another busy year at St. John's with a variety of events taking place and a programme of maintenance undertaken including a quinquennial inspection undertaken by the Wright Design Partnership Ltd. Kirkby Lonsdale. We are in the process of a faculty application being approved to repair and replace glass, stone mullions and leadwork in a south facing window. We have also had some damp chasers fitted in the organ.

Dave Tallon has been contacted and we are waiting for him to secure 20 headstones due to subsidence in the Church Yard.

We continue with our regular fortnightly morning service alternating between Holy Communion and Morning Service. Our festival services draw larger congregations especially the Carol Service with Kirkby Lonsdale Brass Band followed by refreshments in the village hall.

The Rainbow Service is celebrated during the May Bank Holiday weekend in conjunction with the Fell Race and Country Fair run by the village hall committee. The church was open during this event with a flower festival themed of Songs.

Through the year, we have had the following services: Plough, Easter Day, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday, Christmas Day. We have had a wedding but sadly we have also had two Funerals. Numerous social events have enhanced the life of the village starting with the highly competitive Horse Racing & Dominoes Evening held in February, A Celebration to commemorate Queen Elizabeth's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday was held at the village hall with a short service followed by a BBQ.

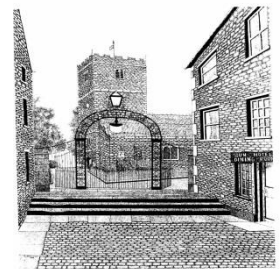
In June The Burton Singers gave a concert in the Church in aid of The Blood Bikes. Harp and Monkey, a folk group who perform songs written about the First World War, visited the Church in August. In October, a Harvest Supper was held at the village hall and enjoyed by all who attended. A successful Bingo Evening in November.

Thank you to our organist and regular group of enthusiastic helpers!

*Alison Newton, DCC Treasurer*

## **St. Mary the Virgin, Kirkby Lonsdale**

I cannot believe yet another year has passed and, on reflection, I feel it has been a year for consolidation. Our pattern of services has been maintained with the help of our lay readers and lay leaders and into this pattern an ecumenical thread has been woven seamlessly on alternate months.



Deborah retired in May, but we are glad she is still amongst us and occasionally helping when needed. We are delighted to welcome Sue O'Loughlin to the Team and hope she is enjoying being part of our church community.

The discussions about House for Duty are bearing fruit and the post of Leader for the Family Project has been re advertised. Both these posts have taken many months of hard work and deliberation.

Throughout the year St Mary's has continued to be the venue for large and small gatherings both sacred and secular. This building offers a unique space that can provide the right atmosphere for the occasion, be it a large funeral or an evensong, an art exhibition or a ceilidh. It is the people that bring the sentiments and mood, be they church goers or those from the wider community. All are welcome within its walls.

We are the church of the present. Our Diocese and dedicated Ministry Team continues to guide us forward in challenging times, urging us to look ahead to the church of the future. A church that doesn't stand still, but an active, ecumenical church seeking to reach out and get involved in more imaginative ways, working alongside interested parties of all ages.

We must try and harness this enthusiasm in a positive way and be prepared to look outwards with a welcoming attitude. The luxury of freedom to worship is a gift we should respect and use wisely and thankfully.

Once again we are indebted to our Team and lay leaders for providing a rich and varied selection of services throughout the Rainbow. Compiling a rota, particularly at busy times and including 7 slots on the Hospital Communion rota, must be extremely demanding.

And to Gillie and Richard, thank you once again for the hospitality you offer in your home throughout the year. I know the Boxing Day Party is always a treat so generously provided after such a hectic time.

*Anne Foulerton, Churchwarden*

## **All Saints' Church,**

### **Lupton**

Our services have followed our usual yearly turnover. This very often includes having a good meal. We are grateful for this. Most often the meals are at Brow Head with Allan and Margaret Lambert. Lucky for us all taking part. Starting with the New Year service in January there is a lunch afterwards. In May they do a BBQ after both the Annual Walk and the Lambing Service in the barn. The Harvest Supper in September is at Hutton Roof Village Hall. We all help with that - another good feed.



We are lucky also with our services - a variety of people taking them which we enjoy, marvellous singing voices in the congregation, new people joining us at every service and a brew at the end. The unrehearsed Nativity service this year provided a spontaneous and uplifting performance due to the children putting their most into it. Unfortunately, Joseph wasn't able to make it.

Repairs to the church have included a really thorough 'spring clean'. Also, the west wall was scraped and repainted. Thanks to all who helped, it looks really good now. Outside the west wall will be repointed this spring - hoping to stop any damp coming through.

Funds for church have been maintained very ably by the monthly dance at Whittington. We are so grateful to Bob and Grace Lewis and Allan and Margaret Lambert for the continued success of the dances complete with great live music and refreshments, which is no little effort.

Just now the churchyard has been full of snowdrops with daffodils coming out. Lovely. It's kept tidy in summer by Keith and Matt despite their other work, so many thanks for this. Lucky Lupton!

*Eleanor Higton, Secretary*

## **Saint Peter's, Mansergh**



A difficult year in the life of our small, rural, parish. Two past Churchwardens lost their battle with cancer; Noel Charlton, a great supporter of St. Peter's, husband of our organist Jean, and Jim Hadwin, husband of our present Churchwarden, Wendy. Both will be greatly missed. There is anxiety concerning the future of St. Peter's as significant repairs are needed to the building. Hard decisions have to be made whether it is sensible to spend so much money on a building for one service a month with a small, constant but ageing, congregation and no new younger members showing interest. On a



brighter note we were delighted to welcome Henry Arthur Mills into the Church. Although Henry doesn't live in Mansergh his parents were married at St. Peter's.

Excellent good news for the Parish was the Lottery Grant for the Community Hall (aka Schoolroom). Thanks to the astounding amount of work put in by Charlotte Southard and her committee the grant has enabled a programme of major refurbishment and we are all looking forward to the grand reopening and the joy of indoor loos!

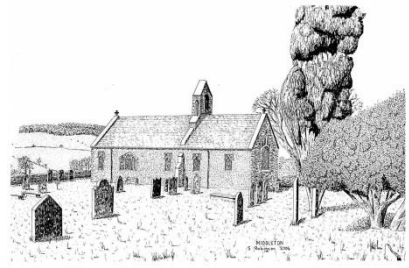
In addition to the monthly family communion services the usual "special" services have taken place – St. Petertide when we were delighted to welcome visitors from other Churches within the Rainbow Parish, Harvest Festival followed by the Harvest Supper and Auction. Due to the major building works taking place in the Community Hall this event took place in the "shooting hut" at Rigmaden Farm thanks to the Metcalfe family. A wonderful event in an amazing room with a blazing log fire. The "Mansergh Dinner Ladies" lived up to their reputation and our resident Auctioneer obtained record prices for the donated produce.

The Remembrance Day service was well attended but sadly reminded everyone of the appalling suffering war continues to bring to many. A more joyous event was the carol service, a full Church, well-read lessons and carols with mulled wine and mince pies to follow. With no Community Hall these were served in the back of the Church, a bit cold but with the help of Janet Bradshaw's wonderful "mulled wine urn" the drink was hot and warming! Earlier in the week members of the congregation had sung carols around the village – another successful night rounded off by more mince pies and mulled wine at Rigmaden thanks to Margaret Wilson.

The parish year ended as the Church year began with a service on Christmas day morning. Other events held for the Church and to bring together the scattered community of Mansergh have been a St. George's Day supper and quiz and an Italian themed supper and quiz both held in the Community Hall before renovations commenced and both triumphs for the "Dinner Ladies". In July it was the well-attended Belle Vue Bash, October the Jumble sale and November the Domino Drive.

*Sue Harrison, DCC Secretary*

## Holy Ghost, Middleton



In addition to the normal monthly Services we enjoyed another successful Carol Service at which the involvement of a number of young people in the lesson reading and singing was most enjoyable. In June there was a Memorial Service for Mrs Elsie Page, a member of the Lancaster family who had recently been living in Australia. This was at the request of Mrs Helen Barker, her daughter, who was here from Australia with her two daughters, Jennifer and Zoe. The family had and still have connections with Middleton. More recently the funeral of Mabel Bownass, whose family also very much belong to Middleton, took place.

We very much welcome Anne Dehany as Secretary of the DCC following the retirement of Margaret Bownass.

A few years ago there were extensive discussions about carrying out alterations to the Church in order to make it more convenient to hold community activities. Expensive repairs to the roof led to this being put on hold. Further consideration is now being given to how this could be achieved, at this stage by examining the ways in which costs could be reduced by community involvement and by identifying possible sources of funding.

In addition to the normal fundraising events two new projects have been engaged in this year. The DCC finances were strengthened by a campaign to increase the income from regular giving and, as a new and successful initiative; a regular coffee morning has been held on the first Tuesday of the month.

Perhaps the most unusual event, however, has been the moving of the Roman Milestone which had been placed on the hillside to the south of the Church after it was found in 1836. A decision about its future was necessary after it fell over about four years ago. Various factors led to the decision to move it to the Churchyard: it probably had not been where it might have been originally and was not inappropriately sited in the Churchyard;

its recent site had been inconvenient for farming reasons and it is now more accessible to visitors. When this project is completed there will also be a display about the Romans in Lunesdale in the Church.

*Peter Yorke, Churchwarden*

## **Saint Patrick's Preston Patrick**



We enjoy our varied services, which are well-attended. Boon Days are organised on the first Saturday of each month from April to October when volunteers do their best to keep the churchyard tidy. Lately work has been done on a thorough tidying of the church and clearing of the churchyard. We are starting to sort out our Garden of Remembrance.

The illuminated cross continues to shine out during the darker evenings. It is on through Advent and Epiphany and Easter. People also request the cross be lit to commemorate anniversaries.

The upper room is completed and very warm due to a double amount of insulation. The church bell is being rung again, but we do need a new bell rope. Anne Pettifor is training up new ringers.

Health and Safety work has come on apace thanks to Liz Dew and Tina Allen. We feel we have addressed the main aspects. We recently acquired emergency lighting for when there are power cuts and there are foil blankets for emergencies when it is very cold. A beautiful handrail was fitted on the sanctuary steps and another fine one on the steep steps outside the vestry door. Both were paid for by generous donations.

The church has outreach to Endmoor and other places in the form of Open the Book each Monday at Endmoor School, Meet to Eat in the Village Hall on alternate Wednesdays, and a monthly communion service at St Gregory's Care Home.

*Tony Mason, Churchwarden*

## **Deanery Synod**

Three meetings of the Kendal Deanery Synod took place, each with its own theme and held at Crosthwaite, Burneside and this February with our avowed ecumenical journey in mind, at Stricklandgate Methodist Church. The Ascension Day service was held at Preston Patrick.

Financial matters arose at every meeting. It was gratifying that most parishes in the diocese had slightly increased their offer. The accent on youth and the need for youth workers has been discussed, as has the idea that one could worship anywhere. There were falling numbers of clergy and increasing numbers of redundant or poorly attended churches. There is a need for understanding that we are living in changing times.

*Olive Clarke, Deanery Synod Member*

## **The Rainbow: Looking back**

### ***Maturity in Faith***

#### **Home Groups**

Home Groups create an opportunity to develop a closer relationship with the Lord through:-

1. Group bible study
2. Collective prayer and worship
3. Developing closer relationships with other Christians

Working with the other churches in Christians Together in Lunesdale, six ecumenical Home Groups are established across the Rainbow Parish with meetings at varying times, day and evening. They are mostly lay led with nominated members of the clergy (all denominations) providing support. They typically meet either weekly or fortnightly in some convenient church location or someone's house.

The Home Groups operate in different ways but all include some form of bible discussion either from a bible passage or some Christian literature. They also include some form of prayer and or worship. They provide an opportunity to socialise with other Christians and share views. Further details should be on church notice boards or can be obtained from Merlin Hibbs (015242 76410).

*Merlin Hibbs, Lay Chair*

### **One to Five Christian Nurture Scheme**

We continue to mark the Baptism of a child and up to 4 anniversaries of children in the Rainbow Parish. The cards are produced by the Mothers' Union in the Carlisle Diocese and are funded in the Rainbow Parish by the P.C.C. At every Baptism, three types of card are used; Let's Celebrate, A Record of Baptism plus a Record of the child's Baptism for each Godparent.

*Victoria Hazlett, Parish Administrator*

### ***Expectant Prayer and Lively Worship***

#### **Prayer in the Rainbow**

Phil 4: 6 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

The Tuesday Morning Ecumenical Prayer Group meets in St. Mary's, next to the organ, on Tuesdays from 9.30 to 9.50am. A short devotional introduction is followed by a reading of the prayer requests left at the votive candle stand. There is then an opportunity for prayer about both local and global concerns.

Attendances fluctuate with some sad losses and welcome new members this year. We unflinchingly give thanks for the contribution at a distance from those unable to be physically present. We have been especially grateful over the years for the help of Anne Kerr and Peter Wodeman. We adjourn for a social coffee at 9.50am.

At the two Prayer Groups which meet once a month in the evening, at Kirkby Lonsdale and at Preston Patrick, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in the month, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in the month respectively, we start by reviewing the answers we have had from God since the last meeting. We then think about what we must thank God for, then list local people and events who/which need our prayers. We also reflect on national and international affairs which need God's steering or healing touch.

When we turn to prayer, we start with thanks, then pray in confidence for the subjects on the list and anything in our hearts, as the Holy Spirit prompts us. No issue is too big or too small to be brought before the Lord. Both silent and audible prayer is welcomed. The groups seem to be growing in attendance as people discover how reassuring and what a joy it is to pray together. Why not come along and try a session that suits you; you will be made most welcome!

*Liz Dew, Lay Reader and Nigel Maxwell*

## ***Community Service and Engagement***

### **Christian Aid**

Last year a fantastic total of £3,715.76 went towards building more secure homes for the poorest of the poor in Bangladesh, constantly under threat of flooding. It is thanks to the dedicated team of collectors throughout the parish that such a large amount can be achieved.

Liz Muirhead, our treasurer has sadly decided now to stand down. Liz was instrumental in setting up Christian Aid, here in Kirkby Lonsdale, very many years ago. She has contributed so much time and effort to the ongoing success of our local support group. We are indebted to the considerable amount of work she has undertaken over the years.

Sadly our support group is shrinking somewhat and we would be delighted to hear from anyone who would be interested in joining us.

*Anne Foulerton*

## **Hospital Communion**

Each Sunday, the churches in the deanery offer a short communion service to the patients in the Westmorland General Hospital. Mostly the patients come down to the chapel, but if unable to do so, they can receive communion at the bedside. The service also goes out over the hospital radio system.

We have two teams of volunteers from this parish and we cover 7 weekends on the rota.

Thank you all who are involved. Your continued commitment is so very much appreciated. If anyone would like to become involved as a volunteer, please see me or one of the Ministry Team.

*Anne Foulerton*

## **St. Mary's C of E Primary School**

This year represents our 30 years (our pearl anniversary) on the current site in Kirkby Lonsdale which we celebrated on 16<sup>th</sup> December with Bishop James. Throughout this anniversary year the staff of St Mary's have made every effort to transform the school and set a new path for the future of our primary school. Initially this has been to establish a new vision for the school and establish Christian values. Our new values are perseverance, trust, responsibility, honesty and respect. Our new motto being 'Nurturing Creative Thinkers'.

We have also looked to improve the school environment including new windows, painting the school, new signage, and developing the grounds including a new outdoor classroom (pod) and playground areas. In addition we have purchased a raft of new tablets, laptops, drones, and programmable equipment to support the computing curriculum. Importantly we want to improve our creativity and take advantage of the rural setting in which we live and provide a high quality environment in which to play and learn.

We have increased our annual music concert to a termly concert to celebrate the progress so many children make in playing such varied instruments. Our Christmas service also provided a beautiful and special opportunity to

celebrate Christmas together as a community. Our end of term performance of Robin Hood, hosted by QES in the Harlequin theatre was superbly received, despite the exceptionally hot weather giving rise to very challenging conditions.

The children at St Mary's are remarkable in their attitude to learning and their creativity. Termly, our children come together to share their learning with each other and discuss projects they have created. This is one of many ways in which the children can explore their own learning style and creativity. They have also engaged with the many local and national art competitions and opportunities to express their creativity. We have also made sport a priority for our children increasing dramatically, the amount of sporting opportunities and competitions that children can experience, including, cricket, judo, swimming, hockey, cross country, cycling, netball, tag rugby, athletics, open water swimming, out door and adventurous experiences and various residential visits.

The staff have worked hard along with the children to rapidly improve the attainment and achievement of the children to great effect! It is our hope that we can produce creative children where all of our pupils achieve highly whilst focusing on discovering their talents and skills as well as good academic success.

Importantly the children often think outwardly, caring for others, whether raising funds for Mary's Meals, comic/sports relief, children in need and many more. This year has been no exception. On a very practical level a group of children coordinate our regular contribution to the Kings Food Bank and we have recently held a 'Big Brew' to encourage children to think about purchasing Fairtrade products.

We have really valued the ongoing support of the PTA who have raised funds for the outdoor classroom and other ongoing projects. We are currently looking to planting around school. Staff members and the whole school community have been donating plants and cuttings to enable our grounds to be colourful and vibrant. The many volunteers in school enable our children to have a vibrant and supportive place to learn – we value the clubs they offer and the experience they share. Students from QES support us greatly building relationships with our pupils and providing superb role models for all ages. We are always looking to inviting visitors to inspire our children, please do consider offering to help or give a talk to share your story or talents!



In September our Year 5 and 6 children walked 9 miles from school to Box Tree Farm, camped in the pods there and walked back another 9 miles. This was a great example of the superb perseverance the children had and the great camaraderie generated has helped as the children learn together as a team. What a clear reminder of the wonderful things children can achieve with support and encouragement. Although this report looks back at the previous year, it also heralds the exciting opportunities ahead for our very special primary school. We hope as a member of the community, you might work in with us sometime in the future, if not, please do support us prayerfully.

Finally, Pam Winterburn retired in August 2016 who worked with a whole generation of pupils at St Mary's. Her contribution to the lives of our children is greatly missed and we wish her well in her retirement. (Although she does volunteer in school occasionally helping with readers – she can't quite say good bye and neither can we!) I know how much the children have valued her contribution to their education and start in education.

Thank you to all of the parents, families and friends for your ongoing support for our school, we look forward to another successful 30 years in Kirkby Lonsdale.

*Brian Jones, Headteacher*

## **St. Patrick's C of E Primary School**

We are delighted to give you a flavour of events that took place at St Patrick's CE School during 2016. 2016 started with great news for the school. Endmoor & District First Responders generously donated a defibrillator to the school and provided training for staff.

The Vikings came to school in January! Clare and Stuart Perry brought lots of props, clothing and artefacts for the children to experience. The Viking theme was also incorporated with a visit to Tullie House, Carlisle. We are still enjoying our weekly visits from the 'Open the Book Project' and the children look forward to a carefully chosen Bible story being told and acted out by members of our local church and community (and themselves!).

The school has welcomed the use of its' facilities by St Patrick's church for a number of Family Services, called "St Patrick's @ ...". Always popular events. Our 'CU Wednesday' NISCU Club is very popular, run by local young Christians, and the children like their puppet shows so much.

Our after school clubs have included art club, gymnastics club, choir rehearsals and gardening club!

### **SCHOOL AND CHARITY EVENTS**

2016 has been extremely busy organising school and charity events; below are just some of the events the children have enjoyed.

Poppy appeal

Anti-bullying week

Boxes of Hope, Cumbria

Internet Safety Day

World Book Day

St Patrick's Day celebrations

Sports Relief

Book fair

Pantomime performance of Aladdin

Cyclewise

County Show display

Bags 2 School (unwanted clothing collection which is available for the whole community to donate to)

Macmillan coffee morning

### **SPORTS**

The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the Dallam School PE competitions which included, Netball High 5, Quick Sticks, Lacrosse, Rounders, Cross Country and orienteering events. We have some extremely talented sports pupils here at St Patrick's!

### **SCHOOL KITCHEN**

We are very fortunate to have our own in-house kitchen which prepares delicious, fresh and nutritionally balanced healthy school meals.

## **BREAKFAST CLUB**

Our breakfast club has been welcomed by parents. Pupils can enjoy being with their friends and eat breakfast before school starts.

## **MUSIC**

Thelma Aldridge continues to provide wonderful music support across the school, teaching all the children music from Reception through to Year 6. The children are taught a variety of musical instruments including the recorder and keyboards along with singing and reading music. Our year 4 pupils continue to enjoy their guitar tuition on a Friday afternoon with a specialist music tutor Mr Duesbury.

In July we said goodbye to Miss Boothby who secured a full time teaching post at a South Lakes primary school. In September; we welcomed Mrs Jackson , year 5 & 6 teacher, and Mrs Bigland, teaching assistant to our team.

The governing body have, as always, been extremely supportive and during 2016 we welcomed Mrs Stretton to the governing body as staff governor. Thank you to Mr Klein and Mrs Hall for all their hard work and support as governors whose term of office came to an end in 2016.

We would like to like to take this opportunity to thank Anne Pettifor for all her hard work, friendship and commitment to St Patrick's CE School.

With best wishes.

*Suzanne Edmondson, Head Teacher*

## **Around Kirkby Lonsdale**

Around Kirkby Lonsdale is a popular publication with residents and visitors alike and is published both in print and as a downloadable pdf on the Kirkby Lonsdale website, where an archive of past issues is also maintained.

We continue to receive enough submissions to keep the publication lively, although it would be nice to include even more news and views from the Rainbow Parish.

We're delighted that advertisers continue to support the costs of publishing AKL – classified ad pages now number eight, and are almost fully subscribed, with a further paid double page spread devoted to the Chamber of Trade. Advertising rates have just risen from £40 to £45 for a standard entry – the first increase for many years. Obviously, advertisers come and go but many are steadfast contributors and we thank them for their continued support. Over the last few years, contributors have been encouraged to submit articles via email rather than by post, with the result that only a tiny percentage of submissions now arrive via the parish office. Those submissions that do arrive handwritten or as a printed sheet are kindly typed up and sent to the editorial team by Vicky Hazlett. This means that editors' time isn't spent re-keying articles. This has greatly helped to make the production process easier.

The usual annual production schedule of ten issues per year – one per month with double issues at Christmas and in the summer – remains the same. Each print run numbers 1800. Most issues are 24 pages in length (16 pages of editorial plus 8 of advertising), although the odd issue goes to 28 pages. We try to keep page number down, where possible, to limit printing costs.

Unfortunately, the editorial team is down to one, despite many attempts to recruit new members since Nick Gillibrand retired last year. We are currently reviewing the way AKL is produced and positive discussions are underway to try to move towards a more stable production model. We'll report back on the results of our ruminations in the next annual report. Thanks to all who continue to be so instrumental in the continuing success of AKL – John Short (printing), Allan Muirhead (ad pages), Vicky Hazlett (parish office), Dilys McLaughlin (ad payments), Marjory York (distribution) and her team of volunteer deliverers.

Finally, here's to all those who beaver away on committees, generously give time to public service and organise the events that make Kirkby such a unique and blessed community – without you, we'd have nowt to print!

*Diane Nowell, Editor*

## **Edward Bear Club and Baby Clinic**

The clinic sessions continue in St. Mary's Church on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 10am with an average of 6-8 babies. The Health Visitor is available to weigh the babies and discuss any problems in the privacy of the vestry. Helpers provide tea and coffee and the opportunity to socialise, while toddlers can enjoy the toy corner.

Thanks to all those who help out

*Audrey Phillips*

## ***Evangelism***

### **Treasure Chest**

'Treasure Chest' is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month in St Mary's with the aim of preparing and supporting families who are having children baptised in any of the churches around the Rainbow. It has been running for around 5 years and its origins are in the first of the promises that are made in the baptism service. The minister says..

*Faith is the gift of God to his people.*

*In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling.*

*People of God, will you welcome this child/these children.*

*and uphold them in their new life in Christ? and everybody (i.e. the church) responds 'With the help of God, we will'.*

The aim is to develop 'Treasure Chest' into an effective stepping stone for the 'Family Project' by providing resources that families can use at home and which we hope will encourage and nurture faith.

*Rev Richard Snow, Team Rector*

## **Open the Book**

The team from St Patrick's Church has continued to go into St Patrick's School in Endmoor every Monday (apart from the first Monday of each term) to narrate and act out Bible stories with lots of enthusiastic help from the children! The stories have been chosen to try relate to each term's Christian value that the school is focussing on and in 2016 we covered Koinonia (fellowship/friendship), Endurance and Peace.

We often sing something lively (with actions if possible) to finish with, ably assisted by Ray on one of his collection of guitars. We have also played our part in the end of term services, either up at church or in school, so the parents have had a chance to see us in action! If anyone wants to join the team, please let me know.

## **Holiday Clubs and St. Patricks@**

The end of August 2016 saw a three-day Holiday Club where we all, children and adults alike, learned how to become "Guardians of Ancora". We gathered each day in the Hall of Memory and learned about the stories of Jesus that had been gathered and kept safe there – but some of the stories had gone missing – and were in danger of being lost forever. So we also went out searching for other stories and then brought them back to the Hall of Memory to keep there for telling to other people in the future.

On the Sunday morning St Patrick's church gathered in Hall for their service (instead of up at church – remember that the church is the people and not just the building!) and this gave the newly qualified Guardians of Ancora a chance to share some of the stories they had gathered during the week. If you want to find out more for yourself, go and have a look at [guardiansofancora.com](http://guardiansofancora.com) – there's a downloadable game so you too can enter the world of Ancora and discover more of the amazing stories of Jesus.....

*Rev Anne Pettifor, Team Curate*

## ***Quality of Relationships***

### **Bell-Ringing**

#### ***St. Bartholomew's Bell Tower***

The ringers in Barbon were very well supported by some 5 experts without whom the tower would have to be abandoned. We managed to practise on most Thursdays and are reasonably competent at the basics, call changes and very simple methods. John Collins one of our stalwarts has had to retire - he goes with our thanks and best wishes. We had three visiting groups. We have failed to ring regularly on Sundays and mean to do better.

In the coming year we would welcome new talent and invite anyone interested to contact the writer or turn up on a Thursday evening at 5pm to show an interest.

#### ***St. Mary's Kirkby Lonsdale***

I am pleased to report another year of success for the bell ringers. In December, as part of a nationwide challenge to raise funds for a cancer charity, we completed the first ever quarter peal of the method, Julie McDonnell Bob Doubles, to be rung in Westmorland.

After much hard study, James has achieved competency in Cambridge Surprise, which considerably strengthens our repertoire. The range of methods we use regularly, from simple call changes to advanced methods, has made Kirkby Lonsdale a popular go-to venue on Friday practice nights.

In spite of my enforced absence on Sunday mornings, due to being on placement in Lancaster, we have managed to ring for most Sunday morning services, including the ecumenical services at the Methodist church.

On a maintenance front, the very wet weather over the last two winters has not helped the English Heritage approved whitewash, which keeps peeling off. Leaving the tower window into the church ajar helps airflow and significantly reduces the damp in the tower. A programme of clapper greasing and ground pulley adjustment is planned for the summer.

I should like to thank all the ringers for the hard work they put in and their unfailing loyalty, and especially John and Nigel for looking after things in my absences this year.

*Bob MacKeith and Alan Cox*

## **Chill Out Tuesday**

Meet to Eat started in Endmoor on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016 as a replacement for Chill-Out Tuesdays, which had run its course. Meet to Eat is held on alternate Wednesday lunch times, when a light lunch is provided. This venture seems to be working and there are now regular customers enjoying this event.

*Andrew Hardwick*

## ***Ecumenical Partnerships***

### **Christians Together in Lunesdale**

The first aim of Christians Together in Lunesdale (CTiL) is to promote informed understanding of, and respect for the gifts of various denominations and bodies locally and to encourage sharing, praying, worshipping and working together. This summarises our remit and we work hard to promote it. Areas of difference must be explored and overcome if at all possible. By working together we do God's work and we should find opportunities to put this into practice.

The Steering Group of 12 is drawn from Kirkby Lonsdale Methodist Church, the Rainbow Parish, the Society of Friends and St Joseph's Church, Kirkby



Lonsdale. In 2016 Wendy Thornton of Kirkby Lonsdale Methodist Church was Chair of the Steering Group. There were no changes to the group this year except that Theresa Burles relinquished the role of treasurer and Valerie Hull, a member of St Mary's congregation, offered her services as treasurer and was duly co-opted.

Following the signing of the Ecumenical County of Cumbria Declaration of Intent by three denominations, Anglican, Methodist and United Reformed Church in 2011, this year the proposal to create a Covenanted Partnership in an Extended Area (CPEA) has been approved. This allows for a full sharing of ministry, mission and resources.

Throughout the year several united morning services have been held in the Kirkby Lonsdale churches as well as the regular monthly united evening Working With God services. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was held in January during which a united covenant service was held at Kirkby Lonsdale Methodist Church. This was well attended and appreciated as were the daily prayer meetings.

CTiL Steering Group support the Society of Friends Open Meeting for Worship which is held throughout the year when there is a fifth Wednesday in the month in St Joseph's Room, St Joseph's Church, Kirkby Lonsdale. The collections from the meetings are sent to Mary's Meals.

During Lent 2016 four ecumenical groups, mostly studying the York Course, met throughout the Rainbow Parish geographic area. Holy Week worship led by Bishop Robert Freeman, the Bishop of Penrith, involved all the Christian groups represented on CTiL Steering Group with the open air Good Friday service taking place in the Market Square, Kirkby Lonsdale. The weather was good and, as usual, it was very well attended.

A very successful Harvest Supper and Ceilidh was held in St Mary's Church, Kirkby Lonsdale in October hosted by the town churches and well attended by the wider community.

A Community Candlelit Carol Service was held in St Mary's Church, Kirkby Lonsdale on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December followed by refreshments.

Meet to Eat is supported by CTiL Steering Group and is an ongoing success story for customers and staff alike with weekly numbers of around 30 customers. All profit is given to a range of charities, often those suggested by customers. This year we have supported Cumbria Community Foundation Flood Relief, Esme Morgan (Girl Guides voluntary service in Romania), Mary's Meals, Christian Aid, The Alzheimer's Society, The Cleft Lip & Palate Association and Right To Work Kendal as well as our monthly financial commitment to World Vision.

*Marion Dalgoutte*

## **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults is an important part of our responsibilities and we work in accordance with the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy (available on the Carlisle Diocese website). The PCC is responsible for Safeguarding and a small committee of the Rector, the Lay Vice Chair (Mr Merlin Hibbs), the independent contact on safeguarding (Mrs Jean Cass) and Mrs Gill Sykes take a lead on putting in place the necessary arrangements.

At its November meeting, the PCC looked at all the church events that are run in the Parish and reviewed the arrangements. All events come under a specific church (for insurance purposes) and have a current health and safety risk assessment. We also reviewed the position on Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS - formerly CRB) clearances. Mrs Jean Cass continues in her role, acting as an independent contact should anyone have any safeguarding concerns.

Safeguarding is on the agenda of every ordinary PCC meeting.

*Merlin Hibbs, Lay Chair*

## Looking Ahead

One of key elements of the ecumenical strategy of our diocese is the way that churches work together in what are called 'Mission Communities'.

'Mission Communities' are groups of churches (of different denominations) who share resources, support and encouraging one another and are outward looking – they seek to have an impact on the wider community and encourage and nurture faith.

For some churches that haven't been in groups or teams or teams this is quite new. For others there are elements in place already and we are part of the way along the road: We are a group of churches who work together; we have a long history of working ecumenically and Wendy's appointment will be a further development; we are trying to be more outward looking and the 'Family Project' is a key area.

Over the coming year we will continue to explore the steps that we need to take to become a mission Community. One thing that will help us is that we will be preparing for a Cumbria wide event in 2018 called 'Moving Mountains'. 'Moving Mountains' will take place in the week leading up to Mothering Sunday on 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> March. It is part of the 'God for All' strategy to help everyone discover more of God and his purpose for their lives. For the four days next March our ecumenical county will be joined by 30 Bishops, 10 Methodist District Chairs, half a dozen URC Moderators and a Salvation Army Divisional Commander — all with their own teams to help us with our outreach in the county. It is not the intention to start lots and lots of new initiatives during 'Moving Mountains' but to build on things that are already happening. Make sure 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> March is in your diary and watch out for more information.

## Who's Who: A contact list for 2017-18

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## **RAINBOW PARISH SERVICES AND EVENTS IN 2017**

*Please support the following Patronal Festivals and other special services and events currently arranged for this year around the parish.*

**Parish Review Meeting – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm**  
Lunesdale Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale – Refreshments from 7.00 pm

**Christian Aid Week – Sun 14<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May**

**Christian Aid United Service – Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am**  
St. Mary's, Kirkby Lonsdale

**Hutton Roof Flower Festival & Rainbow – 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> May**  
St. John's, Hutton Roof

**Middleton – Pentecost Celebration – Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm**  
Holy Ghost, Middleton

**Casterton Rainbow – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm**  
Holy Trinity, Casterton

**Mansergh Rainbow – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00pm**  
St Peter's, Mansergh

**St Bartholomew's Patronal – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August at 6.30pm**  
St Bartholomew's, Barbon

**Rainbow Service, Licensing of Wendy Thornton - Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 10.30am, St. Mary's**

**Lupton Rainbow – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm (tbc)**  
*All Saints, Lupton with Kirkby Lonsdale Brass Band*

**Unwrapping Advent – Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**  
St Mary's, Kirkby Lonsdale - see AKL for times and details

